

he left to the South London Botanical Institute, founded and endowed by himself.

Hume died at his own house, The Chalet, Kingswood Road, Upper Norwood, at the age of 82.

The following are the titles of his principal separate works on Birds :—

1869–1870. My Scrap-Book, or Rough Notes on Indian Oology and Ornithology.

1873–1875. Nests and Eggs of Indian Birds.

1874. The Indian Ornithological Collector's Vade Mecum.

1878. A revised List of the Birds of Tenasserim. With W. DAVISON.

1879. A rough tentative List of the Birds of India.

1879–1880. The Game Birds of India, Burmah, and Ceylon. With C. H. T. MARSHALL.

Besides these and his numerous papers in 'The Ibis,' Hume was Editor of (and principal writer in) an Ornithological Journal called 'Stray Feathers.' Of this eleven volumes were published at Calcutta, 1873–1899, to which a twelfth volume and General Index were added by Mr. C. Chubb in 1899.

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XXXV.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 552.]

89. '*The Auk.*'

[The Auk. A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. xxix. Nos. 1, 2, 3 (January to July, 1912).]

In these numbers we may first mention two papers of considerable importance as regards Nomenclature. Mr. W. Stone discusses "Vroeg's Catalogue" and decides that it hardly falls within the binomial system, though he considers that the 'Adumbratiuncukæ' attributed to Pallas, and now known to be attached to three copies of the "Catalogue," stand on a different footing. Mr. Rhoads adds to Dr. Richmond's list of papers by Rafinesque ('Auk,' 1909) two from the 'Kentucky Gazette,' representing his best work. If such publication is to be accepted, the genus *Hydrochelidon* would

become *Chlidornis*, and *Hirundo lunifrons* would stand as *H. albifrons*.

Mr. W. Brewster writes on the gliding flight of Gulls, which he is inclined to attribute to the action of the wind against the terminal portion of the remiges, adjusted and readjusted by the birds in conjunction with movements of the body : Dr. Townsend discusses the Genealogy of Birds, as evidenced by their methods of progression in water, in the air and on land ; Mr. S. Trotter has a paper on the Relation of Genera to Faunal Areas ; Mr. H. W. Wright comments on the regularity of birds' evening and morning songs : while Mr. Brewster is again to the fore with Notes written by the late F. Bolles on the habits of Whip-Poor-Wills and Owls. Mr. J. T. Nichols writes on " Recognition Marks " in certain species, but does not seem to have much that is new to tell us ; and Mr. McAtee's subsequent paper may be taken as a criticism of his views. We do not quite understand Dr. Bishop's standpoint in his article on the Bird-markets of Southern Europe. He certainly deplores the destruction of so many species in the South, but seems to imply that birds are not necessarily extirpated by such destruction. He instances the taking of eggs at Flamborough and the shooting of Woodpigeons in England, but surely he must know that the Flamborough climbers are very careful in managing their " preserves," and that the Wood-pigeons shot are mainly foreign (and harmful) invaders.

As regards distribution, Dr. Townsend writes of St. John Valley in New Brunswick, Mr. Iseley of Sedgwick County, Kansas, Mr. Arnold of Newfoundland, Mr. Bailey of the mountains of Virginia, Messrs. Bruner and Feild of those of West Carolina, Dr. Bergtold of the Gila River, New Mexico ; but these papers are of much less interest than that of Mr. Rhoads on the ' Paramo ' of Central Ecuador, and the species found from the upper limits of trees to the snow-line, including *Oreotrochilus pichincha* and *Rhamphomicron stanleyi*. Dr. Wheeler also has much to tell us of the birds found to the north of the Great Slave Lake round Fort Enterprise.

Dr. Bishop describes a new subspecies of the Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus texanus*), Mr. Boys another of the Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus thayeri*); Mr. Ginnell makes a new species of the so-called "Hawaiian Linnet" (as *Carpodacus mutans*), though Mr. Phillips states that the change in the males from red to yellow or orange is an insufficient reason for giving it a new name. Further articles on single species are those on *Telespiza cantans* and its pterylosis by Mr. H. L. Clark, on the Carolina Paroquet by Mr. Wright, on the Black Duck and its allies by Dr. Townsend and Mr. Phillips, on his eggs of the Great Auk by Mr. Thayer, on the Sage Thrasher by Mr. Kennedy and Palmer's Thrasher by Mr. Stafford, on the Passenger Pigeon by Mr. Hodge (no certain records of late), on *Pisobia minutilla* by Mr. Moore, and on *Phaethon americanus* by Mr. Gross. The last two papers are of considerable value and describe the habits of the birds in the Magdalen Islands and the Bermudas respectively, with the addition of good illustrations of the young. Mr. Phillips has also written on American Black Ducks in general, and Mr. Bryan on the Canary's acclimatization on Midway Island, Hawaiian group.

Lastly, we must draw attention to the account of the 29th Meeting of the A. O. U. by Mr. Sage; and more particularly to the XVIth Supplement to the A. O. U. List of Birds; while Obituary Notices are given of Mr. H. A. Purdie (an original member) and of Prof. Whitman.

#### 90. 'Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. Third Series. Vol. iii. Nos. 8-10 (June-Aug., 1912).]

The regular notes of Mr. Seth Smith on the Zoological Gardens are perhaps the chief items in these numbers; they record the acquisition of a rare and beautiful Lory, *Calliptilus solitarius* (brought by Dr. Bahr), of the King's Nepaulese Collection, and of another Collection presented by the Government of the Federated Malay States. They also mention the breeding of *Tribonyx ventralis*, *Geocichla*

*cyanocephalus*, Rufous and Martineta Tinamous, and Wild Turkeys, and the arrival of the first living example of *Bataniceps rex* brought to Europe since 1860. Hemprich's Gull has reared young in the Gardens, and the living chicks prove quite unexpectedly to be nearly uniform buffish white in colour.

In these numbers also Mr. Finn gives a good resumé of the facts concerning sexual selection, and Mr. Staples Brown continues his notes on Birds seen on the White Nile. The other papers are of a more purely avicultural character, among which we may notice that Mr. Teschemaker has bred the Crested Lark in confinement.

### 91. Chapman on apparently new Colombian Birds.

[Diagnoses of apparently new Colombian Birds. By Frank M. Chapman. Bull. Amer. Mus. N. H. xxxi. pp. 139-166.]

In November 1910 the American Museum of Natural History sent out a taxidermist with instructions to make collections on the western slope of the Western Andes, from the port of Buenaventura to San Antonio at the summit of the pass which leads to Cali in the Cauca Valley. In the following year Mr. Chapman and other Collectors joined the party, and the result was a series of 5058 birdskins from this little-known district, the more remarkable of which are described in the present paper. The species and subspecies believed to be new are the following:—

*Crypturus soui caucæ*, *Chamaepetes sanctæ-marthæ*, *Leptoptila verreauxi occidentalis*, *Pionopsitta fuertesi*, *Capito maculicoronatus rubrilateralis*, *Veniliornis nigriceps equifasciatus*, *Rhamphocœnus rufiventris griseo-dorsalis*, *Drymophila caudata striaticeps*, *Formicarius rufipectus carrikeri*, *Grallaria milleri*, *G. alleni*, *Upucerthia excelsior columbiana*, *Synallaxis gularis rufipectus*, *S. g. cinereiventris*, *Picolaptes lacrymiger sanctæ-marthæ*, *Knipolegus columbianus*, *Muscisaxicola alpina columbiana*, *Tyranniscus chrysops minimus*, *T. nigricapillus flavimentum*, *Platypsaris homochrous canescens*, *Attila fuscicauda*, *Rupicola peruviana aurea*, *Phaeoprogne tapera immaculata*,

*Troglodytes solstitialis pallidipectus*, *Thryophilus nigricapillus connectens*, *Cinnicerthia olivascens infasciata*, *Planesticus fuscobrunneus*, *Vireosylva chiri cauce*, *Basileuterus richardsoni*, *Spinus nigricauda*, *Ammodramus savannarum cauce*, *Myospiza manimbe colombiana*, *Atlapetes flaviceps*, *Cyanocopsa cyanea cauce*, *Diglossa cryptorhis*, *D. gloriosissima*, *Sporothraupis cyanocephala margarita*, and *Chlorospingus albitempora nigriceps*.

A good map shewing the routes of the Collectors in Western Colombia is added.

Mr. Chapman has in preparation a detailed report upon the Birds, "with special reference to their distribution as it is controlled by altitude." This will be of great interest. We hope also that on the same occasion he will explain the difference between his "species" and subspecies!

## 92. *Clyde-Todd on new South-American Birds.*

[Descriptions of seventeen new Neotropical Birds. By W. E. Clyde-Todd. Ann. Carnegie Mus. viii. No. 2, 1912.]

The Carnegie Museum at Pittsburg, U.S.A., has recently acquired more than six thousand specimens of birds from South America, collected in various localities in Venezuela, Colombia, and Eastern Bolivia, and all apparently labelled with exact dates and localities. Mr. Clyde-Todd proposes to publish full lists of them, as rapidly as circumstances permit, accompanied by field-notes and critical observations. In the present paper he describes seventeen new forms, namely:—*Arremonops tucensis* (Venezuela); *Spermophila haplochroma* (Santa Marta); *Saltator orenocensis rufescens* (Colombia); *Tangara guttata trinitatis* (Venezuela); *Tangara guttata eusticta* (Costa Rica); *Schistochlamys atra aterrima* (Venezuela); *Compsothlypis pitiayumi elegans* (Venezuela); *Pheugopedius macrurus annectens* (Venezuela); *Troglodytes solitarius* (Venezuela); *Craspedoprion intermedius* (Venezuela); *Myiobius modestus* (Venezuela); *Myiochanes ardesiacus polioptilus* (Venezuela); *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus cinerascens* (Venezuela); *Machetornis rixosa flavi-*



*gularis* (Venezuela); *Euchlornis aureipectus festiva* (Venezuela); *Piaya rutila panamensis* (Panama); *Penelope colombiana* (Santa Marta).

It is impossible to criticize work of this kind without access to the original specimens, but we may be allowed to say that some of the new "subspecies" seem to be based on rather slender characters.

### 93. *Gladstone on the Vertebrates of Dumfriesshire.*

A Catalogue of the Vertebrate Fauna of Dumfriesshire. By Hugh S. Gladstone. Dumfries: J. Maxwell & Son, 1912; pp. i-xiv, 1-80, map.]

The bird-portion is an epitome of the author's 'Birds of Dumfriesshire' (cf. 'Ibis,' 1911, p. 169; 1912, p. 344). There is an appropriate Introduction and a good map of the county.

### 94. *Hartert on Palæarctic Birds.*

[Die Vögel der paläarktischen Fauna. Systematische Uebersicht der in Europa, Nord-Asien und der Mittelmeerregion vorkommenden Vögel. Von Dr. Ernst Hartert. Vol. 2. Heft vii. Berlin: Friedländer u. Sohn. 1912.]

We explained so fully the nature and object of this important work in our notice of the first volume\*, that it is hardly necessary to say much more about this part of the subject on the present occasion, when the commencement of the second volume is before us. Having finished his account of the mighty army of Passeres of the Palæarctic Region, Dr. Hartert now proceeds to the Cypseli, which he elevates to the rank of an Order. We are sorry to see that, although he uses derivatives of *Cypselus* for the Order and Family, he continues to employ "*Apus*" for the generic name—a term almost universally used in another branch of Zoology.

The "Caprimulgi" naturally follow the "Cypseli" and are likewise granted the rank of an "Order." They are feebly represented in the Palæarctic Ornis by a few

\* 'Ibis,' 1910, p. 746.

species of the typical genus. The "Meropes," "Upupa," "Coraciæ," and "Haleyonæ," which, according to the author's views, should also be treated as "Orders," continue the series, which is concluded by the *Pici* and *Cuculi*. We are not sure that much is gained by dividing the *Picariæ* of Nitzsch into so many constituent parts, but it is obvious that these eight groups are all distinguished by well-marked characters.

Whatever may be thought of Dr. Hartert's nomenclature and system of arrangement, the students of Palearctic Bird-life will find an enormous amount of information recorded in this work, and should not fail to give it close attention.

### 95. *Headley on the Flight of Birds.*

[The Flight of Birds. By F. W. Headley. London: Witherby & Co., 1912; pp. i-x, 1-163.]

In these days of Aviation, the subject of a bird's flight is one of more than usual interest, and Mr. Headley, in the book before us, gives us an admirably clear and at the same time concise account of the whole matter from all points of view, comparing at the same time the powers of wingless man and winged fowl. He endeavours to avoid all excess of technicalities, and illustrates his meaning by the aid of photographs and diagrams.

The mathematical details are naturally of primary importance and of the highest interest, while the author has discussed them in a manner suited to the general public. These cannot be adequately treated in an Ornithological journal, but all our members should make themselves acquainted with the mechanics of flight, the methods adopted by the bird, and how its structure and plumage is in perfect accord with its needs.

Mr. Headley first calls our attention to the fact that for successful flight perpetual forward motion is necessary into undisturbed fields of air: otherwise the resistance of the air would not be sufficient, and it is the vertical component of this resistance (which acts perpendicularly to the surface exposed to it) that is the sole force sustaining and uplifting

the body, so far as it is heavier than air. Experiments have to be made by aeronauts as to what pace, what surface area, and what curve of the wings gives the best results for their machines; but with a bird the case is different, as it can change its position without fear of a fall, can suit the curvature of its wings to varying circumstances, and can allow the air to pass through its wing-feathers and so reduce the pressure at any given moment. The air too can uplift the tips of the primaries of its own accord.

The bird in fact loses and regains its equilibrium, but the flying man must never lose it. Birds have various ways of righting themselves, by making a more powerful stroke with one wing than the other, by inclining the body, by uplifting the wings, or by using their legs and tails. When Mr. Headley, however, instances a skater's turn of the head without loss of equilibrium, he might have stated that the head and shoulders of the skater are used to alter his direction and change his edge; similarly the bird by a turn of the head need not lose its equilibrium, it is true, but may also wish to suddenly alter its course.

After a study of the laws of flight and so forth, the author discusses motive power in a bird, the bones and muscles utilized, the structure of feathers, and all that is necessary to a full understanding of the matter. Here he has little that is new to tell us that may not be learned in anatomical or other text-books, but, as a summary, his pages will be found of the greatest use to those not versed in the subject.

The final chapters on varieties of wing and flight, on pace and lasting power, and on the effect of the wind, will perhaps be to some as interesting as any in the book, including as they do the much vexed question of the rate at which birds can fly, on migration and at ordinary times.

#### 96. *Horsbrugh and Davies on South-African Game-birds.*

[The Game-birds and Water-fowl of South Africa. By Major Boyd Horsbrugh, with coloured plates by Sergeant C. G. Davies. Part I. Witherby & Co., March 1912.]

This is a very pleasing book. The drawings of Sergeant Davies are capital, while the letterpress, by the well-known



authority on the Birds of Capeland, Major Horsbrugh, are excellent. The first ten plates are devoted to the Bustards (*Otididae*), a very prominent group in South Africa. These are followed by the two Thicknees and the Snipes, and a Francolin concludes the present number.

### 97. 'Irish Naturalist.'

[The Irish Naturalist. A Monthly Journal of General Irish Natural History. Vol. xxi. Nos. 3-7 (March-July, 1912).]

In the March number Professor Patten of Sheffield recorded as obtained at the Tuskar Rock three birds, which he considered to be new to the Irish list, namely, *Motacilla flava*, *Acrocephalus streperus*, and *Alanda cantarella*. He hopes to make a continuous study of Bird-migration at various Irish Lighthouses, and that his stay at the Tuskar may only be the first of such visits. In the April number he admits that the Reed Warbler had been twice obtained previously, and Dr. Barrington expresses doubt as to the identification of the other birds. In the July number Professor Patten writes on the White Wagtail and the Wren at the Tuskar.

Pastor Lindner gives a supplementary note on "Luminous Birds," and suggests that the luminosity may be due to a local micro-organism (alga). Mr. Delap writes on a north-westerly autumn migration of Swallows at Rosslare, and Dr. Barrington follows with a note to call attention to its importance.

### 98. Italian Review of Ornithology.

[Revista Italiana di Ornitologia. Anno I., Nr. 1-2. Bologna, 1912.]

It is pleasant to record the foundation of a new periodical devoted to Ornithology, as we now do under the heading given above. It is also pleasant to see several well-known names among those of the Editors and Contributors. Our old friend Count Salvadori writes on the much vexed question of *Saxicola stapanina* and its allied forms: he is not inclined to admit the specific identity of the black-throated and white-throated birds. Dr. E. Arrigoni degli Oddi and Dr. G. Damiani give us an excellent account of the birds of the

Tuscan Archipelago, containing notes on ninety species; and Dr. Balducci records on unquestionable evidence the occurrence of an adult female of *Pelecanus crispus* in Italy.

A good feature in the new journal is the summary of the contents of all the other principal ornithological journals, which appears to be carefully composed, and, if continued regularly, is likely to be of much service to the working ornithologist.

#### 99. *Kloss and Robinson on Malayan Birds.*

In Nos. 3 & 4 (1911) of the 'Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums' will be found several short papers by Mr. Kloss and Mr. Robinson relating to the animals of the Malay Peninsula, which they are busily engaged in exploring. Mr. Kloss writes on his Zoological investigation of the Trengganu Archipelago, where mammals were many but birds were few. He has also made a short visit to the hills of Negri Sembilan and obtained a series of 86 species of birds, amongst which are two specimens of *Eupetes macrocerus*. The same author gives an account of some new or rare species recently received—*Syrnium mainyayi* and *Pycnonotus robinsoni*; while Mr. Robinson describes a small collection from the mountains of Ulu Langat in Selangor, in which are specimens of the beautiful Broad-bill *Serriophus rothschildi*, and records the occurrence in North Perak of a new "local race" of *Bubo coromandus*, which he proposes to name *B. c. klossi*.

#### 100. *Lucas and Le Souëf on the Birds of Australia.*

[The Birds of Australia. By A. B. S. Lucas and W. H. Dudley Le Souëf, M.B.O.U. Melbourne; October, 1911. 490 pp.]

This will be a useful book to those who cannot afford to subscribe to Mr. Mathews' great work (now being issued in "Two-guinea Parts") on the same subject, and many of our friends, we fear, will be in that class. It is a complementary volume to "The Animals of Australia—Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians" of the same authors and publishers. The classification adopted is that of Sharpe's Hand-

list of Birds, and begins, like that work, with the lower forms of Bird-life. The authors have been obliged to concentrate their work, in order to get the large store of information that we now possess on this favourite subject within the limits of a single volume. In doing this we think that they have acted wisely. Abjuring synonyms altogether they give only the English and scientific names of each species, descriptions of both sexes, and a short account of the geographical range. Useful "keys to the species" are added, where required, with many general remarks on all the better known groups and their ways of life.

The volume is rendered still more valuable by a large number of illustrations, mostly taken from photographs, some of which are excellent, but others are perhaps hardly up to the mark.

101. *Mathews on Australian Birds.*

[The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. London, 4to. Vol. I., pt. 6, Contents, Preface, Index; Vol. II., pts. 1, 2. (January, May, July, 1912.)]

These parts of Mr. Mathews' work include the majority of the Australian Procellariiformes or Petrels; and—apart from the excellence of the plates and the life-histories of the birds, where they are known—are of great importance to all who are interested in the correct identification of the members of this admittedly difficult group.

In the first place, the author has been fortunate enough to rediscover at the British Museum the original manuscript of Dr. Solander, which had probably last been seen by G. R. Gray in 1871. The value of this discovery can hardly be overestimated, for Solander accompanied Sir Joseph Banks as zoologist and botanist on Capt. Cook's first voyage, and gave beautifully clear Latin diagnoses of the birds met with, apparently from fresh examples. Mr. Mathews now gives us exact copies of all these diagnoses, and thus enables us to make up our minds on many doubtful points and to check the work of later authors. But this is not

the only boon that he has conferred on workers at the group. He proceeds to review the authorities on the Order from the earliest monograph by Latham to the latest by Dr. Godman, and to shew the connexion of Latham's descriptions with the Banksian drawings and J. R. Forster's work, which is the more necessary as the former does not seem to have had access to Solander's notes. Moreover he reprints the original descriptions of the majority of the species, gives us his opinions on the various drawings by Banks' artists, and his decisions on the proper names of the forms—in which we may coincide or not as we choose.

Mr. Mathews has derived great assistance from the collections in the British Museum, at Tring, and elsewhere, but still thinks that further material is needed from the breeding-grounds of the species: his view—different to that of most writers—being that they do not wander so far as has been supposed, and that forms now considered identical may prove different, when a long series is available.

To begin with Vol. ii. pt. 1:—Four divisions of the Order are accepted, as in Salvin's volume of the British Museum Catalogue, and in Dr. Godman's Monograph; but the Family name Procellariidæ is changed to *Hydrobatidæ*, and Puffinidæ to *Procellariidæ*.

As regards genera, *Garrodia* and *Pealea* are included under *Oceanites*, while *Procellaria* is taken to contain *Majaquens* and *Priostinus*; if *Fregatta gullaria* (of Vieillot ex Peron) is kept separate the title *Fregattornis* is proposed for it; and in like manner *Nesofregatta* for *F. mostissima* of Salvin and *F. albigularis* of Finsch.

A new species propounded is *Puffinus conesi*, for *P. opisthomelas* auct., not of Cones; and the following subspecies are differentiated: *Oceanites oceanicus exasperatus* (Pacific form); *Pelagodroma marina dulciæ* (West Australian seas), *P. m. howei* (East Australian seas), and *P. m. maoriana* (New Zealand). No less than twenty pages are devoted to *Puffinus assimilis* and its subspecies, which are distinguished as blue-black and brown-black forms. Here two new subspecies are proposed, *P. a. kempi*, *P. a. tunneyi*. Other new subspecies

are *P. therminieri boydi*, *P. l. becki*, *P. reinholdi reinholdi* (= *P. gavia* auct. nec Forst.), *P. r. huttoni*, *P. pacificus alleni*, *P. p. laysani*, *P. p. royanus*, *P. carneipes hullianus*, *P. c. hakodate*; while *Procellaria equinoctialis conspicillata* is differentiated from the type species and from the new *P. æ. brabournei*, *P. æ. mixta*, and *P. æ. steadi*. *Fregetta grallaria grallaria* of Australian waters is clearly distinguished from *F. g. segethi* of Western S. America, and both of these from *F. leucogaster* and *F. tubulata* (now named from Gould's label).

Again, *Puffinus carbonarius* of Solander is tentatively attributed to a New Zealand breeding species; but the exact distribution and value of all the forms accepted must be studied by each ornithologist for himself. *Puffinus gavia* of Forster is made a subspecies of *P. assimilis* and attributed to New Zealand, while *P. pacificus* of Gmelin is identified with *P. chlororhynchus iredalei* Mathews, from the Kermadec Islands, so that Mathews' name must give way to Gmelin's.

In the second part of the volume the letterpress is of a similar and equally important nature, and new subspecies are as plentiful as before.

*Priocella antarctica* is shown to antedate *P. glacioides*, while research proves that *Pterodroma* similarly antedates *Cestrelata*. This genus cannot be combined with *Puffinus* on account of the difference in the bill of young birds, whereof cuts are given in explanation. Attention is specially drawn to the late discovery of a subspecies of *Pterodroma macroptera* breeding in West Australia; it was recorded by the author from Rabbit Island and named *P. m. albani*. The doubtful *Procellaria phillipsi* of Gray is now identified with *P. melanopus* of Gmelin and *P. solandri* of Gould, and proves to be identical with the supposed new subspecies *montana* of Basset Hull, who has submitted his bird for comparison. That is, the species inhabits Lord Howe Island and possibly still Norfolk Island. Typical *P. cooki* is doubtfully included in the work, but *P. c. leucoptera* is figured from one of Gould's Cabbage Tree Island examples. *P. mollis* is struck off the Australian list for the present, but



is given in this part, as the plate was drawn some time ago. *Pagodroma nirea* is also included, though not Australian, in order to separate a larger form from Cape Adare as *P. confusa*, sp. n.

The genus *Prion* is subdivided into *Prion*, *Pseudoprion* of Coues, and *Heteroprion*, gen. nov., as the bill is much broader in some species than others (see woodcuts). The difference of the bill in *Pelecanoides* and "*Puffinuria*" of Lesson is also shown by a figure.

Other new species or subspecies proposed are *Macronectes giganteus solanderi* (Falkland Is.), *M. g. halli* (Kerguelen Is.), *M. g. wilsoni* (Ross Sea), *M. g. forsteri* (Valparaiso), *Prion vittatus macgillivrayi* (St. Paul's, Indian Ocean), *P. v. keyteli* (Tristan da Cunha), *P. v. salvini* (Crozetts), *P. v. missus* (West Australia), *P. v. gouldi* (Australia), *Pseudoprion turtur eatoni* (Kerguelen I.), *P. t. solanderi* (west coast of S. America), *P. t. huttoni* (Chatham Is.), *P. t. crassirostris* (Bounty I.), *Heteroprion belcheri* (Victoria), *H. desolatus mattingleyi* (E. Australia), *H. d. peringueyi* (Cape Seas), *H. d. macquariensis* (Macquarie I.), *H. d. alter* (Auckland Is.); while *Macronectes (Ossifraga) giganteus albus* (New Zealand) of Potts is accepted.

#### 102. *Ridgway on the Birds of North and Middle America.*

[The Birds of North and Middle America. By Robert Ridgway. Part V. Washington, 1911.]

In January 1908 we noticed the issue of the fourth part of Mr. Ridgway's important work\*, and now we have the fifth part before us, its earlier publication having been somewhat delayed by his visit to Costa Rica and, we regret to say, by 'occasional periods of illness.'

The present volume contains Mr. Ridgway's account of the Tracheophonine Mesomyodians of North and Middle America met with within his limits, and embraces representatives of the four families, Pterotochidæ, Formicariidæ, Furnariidæ, and Dendrocolaptidæ. It also contains the

\* See 'Ibis,' 1908, p. 190.

Macrochires (Trochilidæ and Cypselidæ) and the Heterodactyle, which are represented, within the limits of the work, only by the Trogons.

The number of species and subspecies described in the volumes now out is 2038. From 1150 to 1200 forms remain to be treated in subsequent parts of the work.

In the general treatment of his subject Mr. Ridgway pursues exactly the same plan as in his four previous volumes. As our readers are well aware, we differ from him in many points as regards our observance of the rules of nomenclature, but we cannot withhold our admiration of the skill and energy which he has devoted to his arduous task.

### 103. *Salvadori on a new Parrot.*

[Nuova specie del genere *Tanygnathus*, descritta da T. Salvadori. Ann. Mus. Civ. St. Nat. Genova, ser. 3, vol. v. (1912).]

Count Salvadori bases his new species on a single specimen in the Civic Museum of Genoa, and calls it *Tanygnathus heterurus*. The locality is not known. It has some resemblance to *T. everetti*.

### 104. *Sassi on a new Owl.*

[Eine neue Ohreule aus Zentralafrika. Von Dr. Moritz Sassi. Sitz-Ak. Wiss. Wien, Mai 2, 1912.]

Dr. Sassi describes a new subspecies of Owl, of which an example has been obtained by Herr Grauer on the western coast of Lake Tanganyika, as *Asio abyssinicus graueri*.

### 105. *Sclater on the Birds of Colorado.*

[A History of the Birds of Colorado. By William Lutley Sclater. London: Witherby & Co., 1912; pp. i-xxiv, 1-576, 17 pls. and map.]

This excellent and comprehensive work on the Birds of one of the United States is founded on a collection formed by Mr. C. E. Aiken of Colorado Springs, and presented to Colorado College by the late General W. J. Palmer, to whom the book is dedicated. Other collections and other authorities have been laid under contribution to make the volume as

complete as possible, and the result is a work which can be recommended to our readers as an admirable compendium of our knowledge of a part of the country which includes much of the Rocky Mountains. It will also be useful to dwellers in America as a reliable manual of the Ornithology of a State, which has only been treated hitherto by W. W. Cooke, from a somewhat different point of view.

Mr. Selater is evidently anxious that his book should be in the hands of all local naturalists, and he gives for their use Keys to the Orders, Families, Genera and Species, which are arranged and named as in the A. O. U. Check-list. Another feature consists in the paragraphs of references to local works on the Avifauna, while full descriptions of the Birds and short but sufficient notes on their habits follow in due course.

The physical features of Colorado with its lofty mountains, its cañons, prairies and great upland "parks," are described in an interesting Introduction, which proceeds to an analysis of the Bird-fauna as compared with that of other regions. 392 species are recognised, divided into 225 regular breeders, resident or otherwise, and 117 non-breeders. Full lists are given under each category, and an attempt is made to delineate their vertical distribution.

Three species which breed regularly above the timber-line are of especial interest: *Leucosticte australis*, *Anthus rubescens*, and *Lagopus leucurus*; while many of the photographs help us to realize the details in the letterpress. The articles dealing with the Ducks and Grouse may be mentioned in particular, as also those on the Wild Turkey and on the habits of the Least Bittern. The spread of the English Sparrow and the curious distribution of the Magpie should also be noted.

#### 106. 'The Scottish Naturalist.'

[The Scottish Naturalist. A Monthly Magazine devoted to Zoology. Nos. 6, 7 (June, July, 1912).]

In the first of these numbers Dr. Harvie-Brown, whom we congratulate on his well-deserved Honorary Degree, continues

his exhaustive memoir on the Fulmar in the British Isles. He gives a corrected map, as previously promised, based upon extended information, and traces the bird as it has gradually enlarged its range from the north of the Scottish mainland to Berriedale in Caithness on the east coast and the Hebrides on the west. He has also much to tell us of the Fulmar's increase on St. Kilda since the natives have used it less for food, and finishes by furnishing details of its discovery by Mr. Ussher and others in Ireland during the last few years.

In the July number we have the first Interim Report of the Aberdeen Bird-Migration Inquiry. Mr. Thomson gives an outline of the method of "ringing" employed, and a description of the schedules sent out. All British birds are at present within the scope of the Inquiry, while it has been very wisely determined to attempt no conclusions at present. A Guillemot and a Herring Gull have been traced from Aberdeen to Sweden and Denmark respectively.

#### 107. *Swarth on the Birds of Alaska.*

[Birds and Mammals of the 1909 Alexander Alaska Expedition. By Harry S. Swarth, Univ. of Calif. Publ., Zool. vol. vii. No. 2. Berkeley, 1911.]

This is a report on the results of a second zoological expedition to Alaska "organized and financed" by Miss Annie M. Alexander in the spring of 1911, the party consisting of Mr. Allen E. Hasselborg, who attended to the Mammals, and Mr. Swarth, who devoted himself to the Birds. The Sitkan district of Alaska, or, at least, the parts of that territory not examined by the first expedition of 1907, were selected as the principal scene of action. An exact list of the localities visited is given, which is further illustrated by a description of each of them and by a map of the country traversed.

The ornithological material collected during the expedition consisted of 604 birdskins, which are referred to 137 species (or subspecies) of the American Check-list. These specimens, together with the accompanying field-notes, have been

presented by Miss Alexander to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California.

The field-notes have been arranged, and are printed at length in the present Report, which appears to have been most carefully and accurately prepared, and to do great credit to our brother Ornithologists of the Far West.

108. *Swarth on Birds from Vancouver Island.*

[Report on a Collection of Birds and Mammals from Vancouver Island. By Harry S. Swarth. Univ. of Calif. Publ. x. No. 1.]

This is an account of another zoological expedition "organized and financed" by Miss Annie M. Alexander and led by her in person during a large part of the summer of 1910. The birds collected on Vancouver Island, and subsequently presented to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California, were 1142 in number. They are referred to 111 species. After an itinerary of the voyage, which is illustrated by a map, a complete list of the species is given, accompanied by a series of excellent field-notes.

109. *Van Pelt-Lechner on Netherland Oology.*

[Oologia Neerlandica. Eggs of Birds breeding in the Netherlands. By A. A. van Pelt-Lechner. The Hague: 1911-12. Parts 2 & 3, 29 and 36 plates respectively.]

We have now received two more parts of this excellent work on Oology. Being written in English, it will doubtless be often consulted by those of us specially interested in the Palearctic Region, while the details of coloration of the various "layers" of the egg-shell, on which so much stress is laid, are of considerable importance. The plates are beautiful, and the only criticisms of them which we have to offer are that the colour in the eggs of the Grasshopper Warbler is not quite pink enough, while in those of the Chiffchaff the markings are made red and not purplish black, which is almost invariably their colour in Britain. The author himself is probably disappointed with the white eggs, which come out greyish under the process used. The letterpress



is particularly valuable where it discusses the egg-characters of a Family as a whole; for instance, where the Falconidae are divided into three groups in that respect. It must not be forgotten that the text refers to the Netherlands, otherwise we might demur to the Grasshopper Warbler's breeding at times in grain and clover fields, or to the omission of rocks in the case of the nesting sites of the Buzzard, while we are also startled by the statement that sharp objects are put into the hole among young Wrynecks, apparently by the parent bird.

These two parts are devoted to various species of Passeres, to the Picarian and Raptorial Birds, Owls and Pigeons, while the Black Grouse and the Little Bittern shew the transition to other Families.

#### 110. *Wollaston on Papuasia.*

[Pygmies and Papuans. The Stone Age to-day in Dutch New Guinea. By A. F. R. Wollaston. London: Smith & Elder, 1912; pp. i.-xxiv, 1-345, many illustrations, col. and black, and two maps.]

It is somewhat difficult to write a notice of Mr. Wollaston's book for two reasons. Firstly, though, as we are told in the preface, it can hardly be considered other than an official account of the B.O.U. Expedition to Dutch New Guinea, sanctioned by our own Committee, we certainly expected a full and formal Report to have been made to the Union on the results, and especially on the Birds, which are our peculiar province. Secondly, the book, which contains matter of the greatest interest and adventures very well told by the author, is on the whole a work on Ethnology, with important Appendices on a new race of Pygmies by Dr. Haddon, and on languages by Mr. S. H. Ray. In fact, although Mr. Wollaston's pleasantly written story of the Expedition will be more interesting to the public than the more formal Report of the Leader, we hope that Mr. Goodfellow's account may also be forthcoming, and, excellently as Mr. Ogilvie-Grant has described the species of birds procured, fuller information may enable him or others to write at greater length the life-history of the birds of Dutch New Guinea.

The ornithological collection made contains much that is valuable, and has added many new forms to the British Museum, to which most of them have been presented. As the Expedition was unfortunately unable to penetrate to the Snow Mountains, it would naturally be expected that most of the specimens would be procured at the lower levels, and this proves to be the case, most of them having been obtained below 2000 feet, and few above 4000 feet. In all, examples of 235 species were obtained belonging to 42 Families, but 150 of these were of eight Families—Honey-eaters, Flycatchers, Parrots, and Pigeons giving the best results, though the 13 forms of Birds-of-Paradise must be considered the chief prizes. Of these we may give a list:—

- |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Paradisea nova-guineæ.</i>    | 8. <i>Chlamydodera lauterbachii.</i> |
| 2. <i>Cicinnurus regius.</i>        | 9. <i>Ælurædus stonei.</i>           |
| 3. <i>Ptilorhis magnifica.</i>      | 10. <i>Phonygama jamesi.</i>         |
| 4. <i>Seleucides niger.</i>         | 11. <i>Manucodia orientalis.</i>     |
| 5. <i>Parotia carolæ mecki.</i>     | 12. <i>M. jobiensis.</i>             |
| 6. <i>Diphylloides chrysoptera.</i> | 13. <i>M. altera.</i>                |
| 7. <i>Xanthomelus ardens.</i>       |                                      |

The *Parotia* was new to science, and a nest with two eggs of *Manucodia altera* provided the first authenticated specimens of the species.

A new species of Glossy Starling (*Calornis mystacea*) was discovered, and *Melanopyrrhus robertsoni* was found to be quite distinct from *M. orientalis*. Among the Honey-eaters *Edistoma pygmaeum* was the rarest capture, except another new species, *Ptilotis mimikæ*. Among the Shrikes *Pachycephala approximans* and *P. dorsalis* were also novelties, while the Cuckoo *Microdynamis parva* was a great acquisition. A large Swift (*Collocalia whiteheadi*), originally described from the Philippine Islands, was a remarkable discovery; while not only was a female of the lately described Lory *Charmosynopsis multistriata* procured, but also a new Paroquet, *Aprosmictus wilhelminæ*. Lastly, a new Cassowary—a dwarf species, to which the name of *Casuarus claudii* has been given—was found in the foothills. We might mention numerous other rare birds, did space permit,

but must end by noting that the well-known British Grey and Blue-headed Wagtails and the Gargauey were met with by the Expedition.

It is unnecessary to give the names of the party in our own journal, and we all know how excellent their work has been ; but we cannot refrain from deploring the sad death by accident of Mr. Stalker, whose place was so well filled by Mr. Claude Grant.

XXXVI.—*Letters, Extracts, and Notes.*

We have received the following letters addressed "to the Editors":—

SIRS,—Would you kindly call attention in your next issue of 'The Ibis' to a mistake which occurs on page 508 of the last number (July 1912). At the top of that page "*Correba luteola major*" should be "*Correba luteola*" only, and the words "(Pl. VIII. fig. 2)" which follow "*Correba luteola major*" should be transferred from the top of the page to after "*C. luteola major*," about halfway down p. 508.

I am, Sirs,

Yours &c.,

The Hatch, Windsor,  
July 11th, 1912.

PERCY R. LOWE.

SIRS,—As the references in Mr. R. Gurney's letter (*antea*, p. 352) apply to my papers on Corsican ornithology, I trust that I may be permitted to say a few words in reply.

In the first place the English name of each species is given in the paper in question as well as the scientific name, and where the scientific name is liable to be misunderstood, well-known synonyms have been added in brackets. There is therefore no cause for confusion in the mind of any English reader as to what bird is referred to.

As I stated on p. 322 I have followed Dr. Hartert's